

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please delete the following two paragraphs beginning at page 1, line 3:

### **~~Cross-Reference to Related Application~~**

~~This application is a continuation in part of U.S. Application No. 09/753,102, filed January 2, 2001.~~

Please delete the paragraph at page 4, line 18 and replace it with the following:

~~In accordance with an embodiment~~ In an accordance with an embodiment, provided is a method of coupling a first waveguide and a second waveguide, wherein at least one of the first and second waveguides exists within an optical medium. The method includes the step of generating ultra-short laser pulses. Further, the method includes the step of applying a signal to the first waveguide and the second waveguide for measuring an output derived from the first waveguide and the second waveguide, the output being indicative of a performance metric of the first waveguide and the second waveguide. The method also includes the steps of, in response to the measured output, directing the ultra-short laser pulses within the bulk of the optical medium to write a facilitator segment such that the facilitator segment is within an evanescent coupling region of the first waveguide and within an evanescent coupling region of the second waveguide.

**REMARKS**

Please enter the above-amendments, which correct an erroneous priority claim in the March 29, 2002 First Preliminary Amendment and a typographical error in the February 4, 2003 Second Preliminary Amendment.

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Respectfully submitted,

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